

evaluate carefully either FDA's priorities or the human cost of regulatory delays. Consequently, we've lacked effective congressional oversight on FDA. Without oversight, rational policy perishes, deceit flourishes and demagoguery can triumph.

Enter David A. Kessler, FDA's answer to J. Edgar Hoover. Kessler's FDA boldly sets its own priorities. It does not shrink from half-truths or scare tactics. It pursues retaliation and selective enforcement without remorse. It has made drug safety and efficacy testing a worse bargain than the Pentagon's \$600 toilet seats. Fortunately, recent House and Senate hearings indicate that FDA abuses are finally arousing congressional watchdogs.

Congress should no longer tolerate the FDA's perversion of its mission. To prevent a few mistaken approvals, FDA sacrifices countless patients to approval delay, slows the pace of medical progress and drives health-care costs through the roof and jobs out of the country. It's time for Congress to put patients above bureaucrats and hold the FDA strictly accountable for the human cost of regulatory delays.

TRIBUTE TO THE DEFENSE REUTILIZATION AND MARKETING SERVICE

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the exemplary efforts of the employees of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service [DRMS] based at the Federal Center in Battle Creek, MI.

In the last several years DRMS has vastly improved the efficiency of its operations, which involve the reuse and sale of military surplus goods. In the 1994 fiscal year, DRMS increased its revenues by 85 percent and its profits by 116 percent while cutting its costs by 4 percent. These improvements have continued into the 1995 fiscal year. In fact, the Michigan legislature recognized and commended the achievements of DRMS in a resolution passed on May 31, 1995.

This week, a provision of H.R. 1530 proposed the total privatization of DRMS, ignoring the progress it has made. This provision also ignored the ongoing selective privatization program at DRMS and the opinion of DRMS and the Defense Logistics Agency [DLA] that total privatization is not feasible. Fortunately, with the help of many fine people connected with DRMS, we were able to remove this provision.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank some of those who took leading roles in the effort to amend H.R. 1530. I like to thank the leaders of DRMS and DLA, navy Captain Hempson [DRMS] and Admiral Straw [DLA]. I also want to express my appreciation for the support of Dan McGinty, DLA's Congressional Liaison.

I want to thank the employees of DRMS both for the excellent work they have done and their efforts to change H.R. 1530. In particular, I would like to recognize the efforts of Gary Redditt and Angie Disher, the union representatives at DRMS.

Once more, let me say once more to DRMS and its employees, job well done.

PHYSICIST, DR. EARL F. SKELTON,
HONORED

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Earl F. Skelton, of Washington, DC, a physicist at the Naval Research Laboratory was awarded an NRL-Edison Chapter Sigma Xi Award in Pure Science at a ceremony on June 8, 1995.

Dr. Earl F. Skelton of the Condensed Matter and Radiation Science Division is the author of one of two winning papers in pure science, "Direct Observation of Microscopic Inhomogeneities With Energy-Dispersive Diffraction of Synchrotron Product X-rays." In this paper, also winner of the 1995 NRL Alan Berman Annual Research Publication Award, Dr. Skelton develops fundamental high-pressure research on various superconducting materials using a synchrotron beamline and significantly improves the x-ray diffraction detection limit.

This is the first example of directly detecting structural variations over a spatial scale of 10 micrometers. The existence of such structural inhomogeneities brings into question whether exotic experimental results obtained from high-temperature superconducting material actually reflect their intrinsic properties.

Dr. Skelton, a research physicist with a Ph.D in physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, has published over 200 research papers in technical journals and won several scientific publication awards. He is a fellow of the American Physical Society and a professor in the School of Engineering and Applied Science at George Washington University.

Each year at the NRL-Edison Chapter of Sigma Xi presents awards to outstanding NRL scientists judged to have made distinguished contributions to pure and applied science during their research NRL. These awards are in keeping with the objective of the chapter to encourage investigation in pure and applied science and to promote the spirit of scientific research at the Naval Research Laboratory.

I know that each Member of this body joins me in congratulating Dr. Skelton on his truly outstanding achievement.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY ACT OF 1995

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, every schoolday in our country approximately 418,000 schoolbuses carry 24 million schoolchildren to and from school and school-sponsored activities covering 4.5 billion miles. Schoolbus safety is an issue that certainly deserves the attention of the American people and the Congress. Between 1988 and 1993 approximately 400 people were killed, and 67,900 people were injured, as a result of schoolbus accidents. In my State of Ohio, there were 475 people—426 of them students—injured in schoolbus accidents in the 1992-93 school year.

Without question the schoolbus is the safest mode of transportation on America's roads today. My goal is to improve on existing tech-

nologies to maximize safety. Today, Mr. Speaker, I am introducing a bill to do just that. The School Bus Safety Act does a number of things that will ensure the safe travel of our most valuable resources: our children.

My bill directs the U.S. Department of Transportation to set national proficiency standards for schoolbus drivers. It also directs the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to develop guidelines on the safe transportation in schoolbuses of children under the age of 5. Currently, today's buses are designed to transport and provide maximum safety for children above the age of 6. It would apply the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations [FMCSR] to interstate schoolbus operations. Presently, schoolbuses owned and operated by school districts, regardless of the type of operation involved, are not covered by FMCSR because the school districts are exempt governmental entities. My bill mandates a national criminal history background check system to enable local education agencies, or contractors, to check the criminal background of any person they are considering for employment as bus drivers. In addition, the bill calls for the establishment of construction, design, and securement standards for wheelchairs used in schoolbuses. Finally, my bill directs the DOT study the usage of seat belts on schoolbuses, the extent to which public transit vehicles are engaged in schoolbus operations, and the contracting out of schoolbus operations.

Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the U.S. House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I have long championed Federal measures to promote transportation safety. My bill jets forth a reasonable plan for improving schoolbus safety and safeguarding the lives of schoolchildren. I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation.

REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 1995

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, one of my constituents, Thomas J. Boulet, sent me a poem "Remembering" which honors the service of the men and women who have served their country in the Armed Forces. I think this poem gives all of us an opportunity to reflect on their sacrifice and valor.

REMEMBERING

(By Thomas J. Boulet, September 10, 1980)

Yes, the poppies still blow in Flanders Field
But over here, who still cares—?
People have forgotten Wars I and II
That made Veterans of men so true.
For God and Country—they did their duties
Against high odds—they went forward:
Striving, fighting men—now forgotten
They gave their all, let them rest—Their battles done.

Today, we here, must say a Prayer
To remember the "Peace of the Dead"
Hoping that our Prayers are not in vain
That while this World lasts—no war again.
The "Torch" that was cast to us living
Must be "Held up high"—or die;
"Tis our time now to push and strive
For Peace; then we can hold that torch up high.